GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:422
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
SUPERVISION OF EXPERIMENTS ON ANIMALS
BALIRAM;UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Committee re-constituted for supervision of experiments on animals;

(b) the guidelines set for good laboratory practices;

(c) the procedure involved in getting the animal houses registered with the Government under new dispensation alongwith the number of such applications pending clearance ;

(d) the details of deliberations of the meeting held by the said Committee on February 15, 2003;

(e) whether a conference on alternatives to the use of animals in research and education work has been held at New Delhi recently;

(f) if so, the details of the issues discussed therein alongwith the outcome thereof; (g) whether the Government propose to amend certain laws meant for prevention of cruelty to animals and birds; and (h) If so, the details indicating the efforts made by the Government towards prevention of testings on animals and birds in research and education work?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (h) : A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (H) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.422 REGARDING SUPERVISION OF EXPERIMENTS ON ANIMALS FOR ANSWER ON 21.4.2003 BY PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESV AND DR. BALIRAM.

(a) The Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) was reconstituted on 10th January, 2003, comprising 18 members with Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests as Chairperson, and representatives from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Department of Biotechnology, Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research, Drug Controller General of India, Heads of premier scientific institutes and representatives from reputed Non-Government Organizations working for Animal Welfare as members. The list of members is appended as Annexure I

(b) CPCSEA has formulated guidelines for laboratory animal facilities, in order to ensure maintenance of quality and safety and humane treatment of animals used in biomedical research and testing of products.

(c) Under rule 5 of the Breeding of and Experiments on Animals (Control and Supervision) Rules, 1998, as amended in 2001, application for registration is to be made in the specified format to the Member-Secretary or any other officer authorised in this regard by the committee, who upon satisfying himself about the facts mentioned in the application, shall register such establishment or breeder. At present, 22 applications for registration are pending for clearance.

(d) CPCSEAin its meeting held on 15th February, 2003, discussed a number of issues. The major ones related to examining the functioning of the Sub-Committee on Large Animals(SCLA), progress of changing over to production of Tissue Culture Anti Rabies Vaccine (TCARV), relaxing the upper age of horses used for the production of Anti Snake Venom Serum (ASVS)drawing up norms for selection of CPCSEA`S nominees on Institutional Animals Ethics Committee (IAEC) and for inspection Animal Houses, aspects relating to import of Animals for experimentation etc.

(e) & (f) Yes, Sir. The Conference on Alternatives to the Use of Animals in Research and Education focused attention on the concepts of the Reduction, Refinement and Replacement in the use of animals in research and education in India. The Conference has resulted in creating greater awareness amongst the Indian Scientific community engaged in experimentation on animals about the global trends in this field.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Annexure I

List of Members of reconstituted Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) as or 10.1.2003

1. Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. ` Chairperson/Member

2. Nominee,
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. Member

3. Nominee,
Department of Biotechnology,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. Member

4. Assistant Director General (Animal Sciences), ICAR
Department of Agriculture Research & Education,
New Delhi. Member

5. Director,
Indian Veterinary Research Institute,
Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh. Member

6. Vice-Chancellor,
Tamil Nadu University of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences (TANUVAS)
Or his nominee, Chennai. Member

7 Vice-Chancellor,
Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Sciences University,
Or his nominee, Nagpur. Member

8. Drug Controller General of India,
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi. Member

9. Director General,
Indian Council of Medical Research,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi. Member
10. Director,
All India Institute of Medical Sciences,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi. Member
11. Director,
Indian Institute of Science,
Bangalore. Member
12. Plant Protection Advisor,
Ministry of Agriculture,
New Delhi. Member
13. Joint Secretary (Animal Welfare),
Ministry of Environment & Forests,
New Delhi. Member
Mr. Balakrishnamurthy
14. Director,
Indian Institute of Biotechnology and Toxicology (IIBAT), Chennai. Member
Mr. K.M. Chako,
15. Dy. Director,
Sriram Institute of Industrial Research,
New Delhi. Member
16. Ms. Norma Alvarez,
People for Animals,
Goa. Member
17. Ms. Sanobar Bharaucha,
Compassion Unlimited Plus Action (CUPA),
Bangalore. Member
18. Director (Animal Welfare),
Ministry of Environment & Forests,
New Delhi. Member Secretary